

## Message Text

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ORIGIN PRS-01

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 104

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: COMBINED TRAVELING PRESS REPORT, AFTERNOON-EVEN-  
ING, MARCH 6

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS

NO. 4

RADIO

1. CBS RADIO (FOLLOWING IS INTERVIEW BETWEEN LOCAL CORRE-  
SPONDENT AND KALB):

INTERVIEWER: "MARVIN, DOES KISSINGER THINK THAT TEL AVIV  
ATTACK WAS MEANT TO SABOTAGE HIS MISSION?"

KALB: "HE DIDN'T WANT TO SAY THAT, BUT THERE IS NO DOUBT  
AMONG KISSINGER'S AIDES THAT THAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF THE  
PALESTINIAN ATTACK. IT IS OBVIOUSLY TO GAIN MAXIMUM  
PUBLICITY, THAT THEY HAVE ALREADY GOTTEN. NOW THE QUESTION  
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IS, HOW DOES THAT PUBLICITY AFFECT THEIR CAUSE. OBVIOUSLY  
IF YOU LAUNCHED THIS KIND OF AN ATTACK WHAT YOU WANT TO DO  
IS DISRUPT THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ANY KIND OF FURTHER ARAB-  
ISRAELI ACCOMMODATION AND THE SENSE AMONG A NUMBER OF RATHER

KEY KISSINGER PEOPLE, AT LEAST THIS MORNING, IS THAT IT MIGHT HAVE THE IRONIC OPPOSITE EFFECT ACTUALLY OF HASTENING THE AGREEMENT."

KALB: "FOR ONE THING, IT WOULD, OR AT LEAST WHAT KISSINGER AND HIS PEOPLE HOPE IT WOULD DO, WOULD BE TO DISCREDIT THE TACTICS OF PALESTINIAN EXTREMISM AND FURTHERMORE IT WOULD PERSUADE THE MORE MODERATE ELEMENTS IN THE ARAB WORLD THAT THIS KIND OF TERRORIST ATTACK REALLY DOES NOT LEAD TO ANY PULL BACK OF ISRAELI TROOPS. IF ANYTHING, IT IS LIABLE TO MAKE THE ISRAELIS ALL THE TOUGHER IN THE NEGOTIATION. BUT WITH EGYPT, ISRAEL WANTS SOME KIND OF SEPARATE AGREEMENT AND IT WILL MAKE THEM BELIEVE, PROBABLY, THAT THEY CAN GET SOMEWHERE WITH THE EGYPTIANS NOW AND IT SERVES AS A KIND OF IMPETUS. IT IS TERRIBLY INDIRECT, BUT EVERYTHING IN THE M.E. IS."

INTERVIEWER: "NOW THIS TERRORIST INCIDENT IN THE M.E. UNDERSCORES THE VIOLENCE THAT IS IN THE AIR IN THAT PART OF THE WORLD -- DOES KISSINGER WORRY ABOUT HIS OWN SAFETY?"

KALB: "KISSINGER IS EXTREMELY FATALISTIC ABOUT SECURITY. HE LISTENS VERY MUCH TO THE SECURITY PEOPLE WHO ARE WITH HIM. THERE IS LITERALLY AN ARMY OF SECRET SERVICE PEOPLE ON THIS TRIP, THEY ARE ALL OVER THE PLACE, THEY COMPLETELY SURROUND HIM WHEREVER HE GOES. BUT KISSINGER LISTENS IF THEY TELL HIM TO GO OUT THIS DOOR, DON'T GO OUT THAT DOOR -- HE IS NOT GOING TO ARGUE. THE ONLY THING HE HAS SO FAR REFUSED TO DO IS TO WEAR ONE OF THOSE VESTS WHICH THEY OCCASIONALLY ASK HIM TO PUT ON, BUT HE TURNS THEM DOWN. HE SAYS HE CAN WEAR A SOFT VEST, NOT ONE OF THOSE IRON ONES."

INTERVIEWER: "WHAT DOES HE WANT TO DO AND WHAT ARE HIS CHANCES?"

KALB: "AT THE MOMENT, I AM GUESSING NOW, BUT I THINK UNCLASSIFIED

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KISSINGER THINKS HIS CHANCES ARE FAIRLY GOOD. I DON'T THINK HE WOULD BE BACK HERE COMMITTING HIS PRESTIGE IF HE DIDN'T THINK SO. NOW WHAT HE IS TRYING TO DO IS THE FOLLOWING: WORK OUT A VERY SUBSTANTIAL WITHDRAWAL IN THE SINAI INCLUDING THE ABU RUDEIS OIL FIELDS, INCLUDING TWO STRATEGIC PASSES, MITLA AND GIDI, IN EXCHANGE FOR WHICH HE WANTS TO WORK OUT SOME FORM OF PUBLIC EGYPTIAN PLEDGE OF NON-AGGRESSION FOR A SPECIFIC PERIOD OF TIME BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL."

INTERVIEWER: "THAT WOULD FLY IN THE FACE OF RHETORIC ABOUT ARAB UNITY, WOULDN'T IT?"

KALB: "THE RHETORIC COMES EASY, BUT IT IS TERRIBLY DIFFICULT TO GET THE TERRITORY AND IF PEOPLE LIKE SADAT, PEOPLE LIKE ASAD, FEEL THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER IS THE INSTRUMENT FOR THE RETURN OF ARAB TERRITORY THEY ARE GOING TO HAVE TO PAY A PRICE. THAT IS THE ESSENCE REALLY OF THE NEGOTIATION NOW IN THE SINAI -- HOW MUCH OF A PRICE IS EGYPT PREPARED TO PAY IN THE DIRECTION OF NON-AGGRESSION OR NON-BELLIGERENCY, WHICH IS WHAT ISRAEL WANTS IN ORDER TO GET TERRITORY. KISSINGER'S GUESS IS THEY ARE PREPARED AT THIS POINT (TO PAY) A HIGH PRICE.

WIRES:

1. UPI (NO BYLINE) IN FIRST ACCOUNT FROM CARDIFF REPORTED ON DEMONSTRATION AGAINST THE SECRETARY, STATING "THE INCIDENT MARRED" THE CEREMONY HONORING CALLAGHAN AND THOMAS. SAID SECRETARY WENT "OUT OF HIS WAY TO MAKE A GESTURE OF PERSONAL AND OFFICIAL FRIENDSHIP FOR CALLAGHAN," TAKING A DETOUR FROM HIS ME PEACE-KEEPING MISSION TO FLY TO WALES. LATER UPI REPORT CARRIES HAK'S CONDEMNATION ON THE TEL AVIV GUERRILLA INCIDENT. NOTES THAT ON FRIDAY HE LEAVES FOR EGYPT WITH SHORT STOPOVER IN BRUSSELS FOR TALKS WITH BITSIOS. SAID "ARAB RAID APPEARED TIMED TO COINCIDE WITH KISSINGER'S MISSION. IT SEEMED PROBABLE ISRAELI REPRISALS AGAINST THE PALESTINIANS."

2. SUBSEQUENT UPI ITEM REPORTS THAT HAK ALSO CONDEMNED THE RAID IN HIS SPEECH AT CARDIFF, SAYING THAT "IT COULD ONLY PROVOKE COUNTER STRIKES AND MAKE HIS ME PEACE UNCLASSIFIED

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EFFORT MORE DIFFICULT." SAYS THIS SPEECH COMES "ON THE EVE OF WHAT IS DESCRIBED AS HIS TOUGHEST ROUND OF SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY" -- ANOTHER WITHDRAWAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL. SAYS THE COMMENTS ON THE TEL AVIV INCIDENT "AND ITS EFFECT ON HIS MISSION WERE INSERTED INTO A PREPARED TEXT THAT ORIGINALLY EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR US-EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN A TIME OF 'INSECURITY AND SCARCITY.'"

3. AP DID NOT CARRY AN AFTERNOON REPORT.

TV:

1. ABC (SMITH/REASONER) -- LED WITH REPORTS FROM TEL AVIV AND BEIRUT ON THE TEL AVIV INCIDENT. THEN SMITH SAID:

"SECRETARY KISSINGER WAS ALREADY IN LONDON, A STOPOVER ON THE WAY TO THE ME." (SWITCH TO KOPPEL):

KOPPEL: "KISSINGER HAS HAD PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THE EFFORTS OF ARAB TERRORISTS, TRYING TO UNDERMINE HIS SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY. A THWARTED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT IN

DAMASCUS LAST YEAR, A ROCKET FIRED IN THE DIRECTION OF HIS HOTEL IN JERUSALEM AND, DURING THAT SAME TRIP LAST MAY, THE DEADLY ATTACK ON MA'ALOT. KISSINGER'S REACTION HAS ALWAYS BEEN DELIBERATELY PHLEGMATIC, AS IT WAS AGAIN THIS MORNING. (CLIPS FROM HAK REMARKS IN LONDON: COMPLETELY CONDEMN, SENSELESS ACTS, NO ADVICE, A MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY ...) THERE WOULD REALLY BE NO POINT IN URGING RESTRAINT ON THE ISRAELIS; KISSINGER HAS EXPRESSED HIS OPPOSITION TO REPRISAL RAIDS FREQUENTLY ENOUGH IN THE PAST, WITHOUT MUCH SUCCESS. AND HE IS ENOUGH OF A REALIST TO RECOGNIZE THAT SINCE HE WILL BE ASKING FOR ISRAELI CONCESSIONS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS THAT BEGIN THIS WEEKEND, NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO TRY THAT TACTIC AGAIN. IF ANYTHING, TODAY'S ATTACK MARKS THE DESPERATION OF THE PALESTINIANS. AFTER ALL, IF THEY EXPECTED THE KISSINGER MISSION TO FAIL, THE OPERATION IN TEL AVIV WOULD HAVE BEEN UNNECESSARY."

2. NBC (CHANCELLOR) -- ALSO LED WITH THE TEL AVIV INCIDENT. THEN CHANCELLOR SAID, "THERE WERE INDICATIONS THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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THE TEL AVIV RAIDERS TRIED TO MAKE IT LOOK AS THOUGH THEY HAD COME FROM EGYPT. KISSINGER IS DUE IN EGYPT THIS WEEK, AND THE RAID COULD HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO THROW THAT VISIT OFF THE TRACK. THE ISRAELIS SAID FLATLY THAT THOSE RAIDERS DID NOT COME FROM EGYPT, AND IN EGYPT OFFICIALS THERE SAID THE RAID POINTS UP THE URGENT NEED FOR A SETTLEMENT. THE EGYPTIANS ALSO STRESSED AGAIN THEIR OPTIMISM THAT KISSINGER WILL SUCCEED." (SWITCH TO VALERIANI REPORT)

VALERIANI: "KISSINGER ARRIVED IN CARDIFF AFTER CONDEMNING THE TERRORIST ATTACK AS A SENSELESS ACT OF VIOLENCE AND SAYING IT UNDERLINED THE IMPORTANCE OF MAKING PROGRESS TOWARDS PEACE. HE CAME TO THE CAPITAL OF WALES BECAUSE FON-SEC CALLAGHAN RECEIVED AN AWARD HERE AND CALLAGHAN ASKED THE SECRETARY TO ATTEND THE CEREMONY. KISSINGER ALSO SENT A MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCE TO ISRAEL. AMERICAN OFFICIALS BELIEVE THE TEL AVIV ATTACK WAS TIMED TO UNDERCUT HIS UPCOMING NEGOTIATING MISSION AND TO SERVE NOTICE TO ALL CONCERNED THAT THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM CANNOT BE IGNORED. IT'S THE AMERICAN VIEW THAT TERRORIST ATTACKS ONLY HARDEN ISRAEL'S DETERMINATION NOT TO DEAL WITH THE PLO- AND THEY ALSO MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE US EVEN TO CONSIDER MAKING CONTACT WITH THE PLO BECAUSE OF ISRAEL'S ATTITUDE. BUT KISSINGER STILL BELIEVES THAT CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS CAN BE MADE TOWARDS A SETTLEMENT IN THE ME WITHOUT COMING TO GRIPS WITH THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE."

3. CBS (CRONKITE) -- AFTER CARRYING LEAD REPORT FROM TEL AVIV, CRONKITE STATED: "PRESIDENT FORD STRONGLY DEPLORED THE GUERRILLA ATTACK SAYING THAT OUTRAGES OF THIS NATURE

CAN ONLY DAMAGE THE CAUSE IN WHOSE NAME THEY ARE PERPETRATED. STRONG CONDEMNATION ALSO CAME FROM KISSINGER, WHO IS IN LONDON EN ROUTE BACK TO THE ME TRYING TO NEGOTIATE AN ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN PEACE." (SWITCH TO KALB)

KALB: "KISSINGER WASTED LITTLE TIME CONDEMNING THE TERRORIST ATTACK, AFTER TELLING HIS AIDES IT WILL NOT AFFECT HIS EFFORT OR HIS TIMETABLE IN THE ME. (CLIP OF SECRETARY MAKING STATEMENT) KISSINGER THEN LEFT FOR CARDIFF, WALES, UNCLASSIFIED

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WHERE ABOUT 400 DEMONSTRATORS ADDED POLITICAL FLAVOR TO A DAY OTHERWISE EARMARKED FOR CEREMONY AND SIGHTSEEING. SOME OF THE DEMONSTRATORS DISAPPROVED OF AMERICAN POLICY IN CAMBODIA, BUT MOST OF THEM ATTACKED THE SECRETARY'S APP-ROACH TO THE CYPRUS CRISIS. IN THIS LAND OF THE STIFF UPPER LIP, KISSINGER CONVEYED A PUBLIC IMPRESSION OF COOLNESS UNDER PRESSURE, WHILE HIS AIDES GRAPPLED WITH THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE SPIRALING VIOLENCE IN THE ME. THEY ARE PERSUADED OF TWO THINGS: FIRST, THAT THE ISRAELI POSITION WILL PROBABLY HARDEN; BUT THAT THIS NEW CYCLE OF ATTACK AND COUNTER-ATTACK WILL NOT BREAK THE MOMENTUM TOWARDS A MAJOR SINAI AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL. KISSINGER ALREADY HAS THE SHAPE OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT IN MIND, AND HE IS CONVINCED BOTH SIDES REALLY WANT IT. THE PROBLEM, THOUGH, IS TWO-FOLD: GETTING ISRAEL TO PULL BACK DEEP INTO THE SINAI AND GIVE UP THE PASSES AND THE OIL FIELDS, AND GETTING EGYPT, IN RETURN, TO OFFER SOME PLEDGE OF NON-AGGRESSION. IF THIS PROBLEM CANNOT BE SOLVED, KISSINGER FEARS THIS SUMMER WILL BE NOTED FOR CRISIS AND WAR."

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